Pronunciation – The Glottal Stop

Vowels and diphthongs that occur at the beginning of a word and/or syllable are not usually "connected" to the preceding syllable or word in German; they are a newly initiated sound. A short pause in speech occurs before the voice is employed again. The asterisk denotes the glottal stop. It is much easier to hear when you speak slowly.

100 → **Einhundert*
111 → **Einhundert***e**lf*

1. Read the following times. First write the times in words. Then mark the vowels where a glottal stop occurs.

8.41 Uhr	→	****a**cht ***U**hr ***e**in***u**ndvierzig*
11.11 Uhr	→	
1.28 Uhr	→	
14.39 Uhr	→	
17.58 Uhr	→	

2. On the telephone. Read the following telephone numbers. There are several ways to say telephone numbers in German. Telephone numbers are either spoken as individual numbers, or two or three numbers are grouped together. First write the numbers as words. Then underline the vowels where a glottal stop occurs.

Example:

9 0 0 8 1 0 1	→	*Neun Null Null ***A**cht ***E**ins Null ***E**ins*
900 81 0 1	oder	*Neunhundert ***E**in***u**nd***a**chtzig Null ***E**ins*
9 8 4 1 1 3	→	*Neun ***A**cht Vier ***E**ins ***E**ins Drei*
98 41 13	oder	****A**cht***u**ndneunzig ***E**inundvierzig Dreizehn*

100 12 48 08	→	
5 3 1 7 3 6 8	→	
43 18 21 48	→	
1 1 1 4 8 4 9	→	
888 14 35 01	→	

3. You work in an office. Your colleague is not there and the telephone is ringing. Someone calls and asks you to take a message with a telephone number and time to return the call.

Example: *„Sie sollen 8.41 Uhr die Nummer 100 12 48 08 anrufen."*

11.11 Uhr	Tel. 5 3 1 7 3 6 8
1.28 Uhr	Tel. 43 18 21 48
14.39 Uhr	Tel. 1 1 1 4 8 4 9
17.58 Uhr	Tel. 888 14 35 01

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Answer

1.

8.41 Uhr	→	**acht *Uhr *elf*
11.11 Uhr	→	**elf *Uhr *elf*
1.28 Uhr	→	**ein *Uhr *acht*undzwanzig*
14.39 Uhr	→	*vierzehn *Uhr neun*unddreißig*
17.58 Uhr	→	*siebzehn *Uhr *acht*undfünfzig*

2.

100 12 48 08	→	**Einhundert Zwölf *Acht*undvierzig Null *Acht*
5 3 1 7 3 6 8	→	*Fünf Drei *Eins Sieben Drei Sechs *Acht*
43 18 21 48	→	*Dreizehn *Achtzehn *Ein*undzwanzig *Acht*undvierzig*
1 1 1 4 8 4 9	→	**Eins *Eins *Eins Vier *Acht Vier Neun*
888 14 35 01	→	**Achthundert*acht*und*achtzig Vierzehn Fünf*unddreißig Null *Eins*

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